REMARKS

The Applicant respectfully requests further examination and reconsideration in view of the above amendments and the arguments set forth fully below. Claims 1-47 were pending. Within the Office Action, Claims 1-47 have been rejected. By the above amendments, Claims 15 and 31 have been amended and new Claims 48-51 have been added. Accordingly, Claims 1-51 are now pending.

Double Patenting:

Within the Office Action, Claim 15 has been objected to under 37 CFR 1.75 as being a substantial duplicate of Claim 14. By the above amendment, Claim 15 has been amended to specify that the storage device is a semiconductor memory. Accordingly, Claim 15 is not a substantial duplicate of Claim 14.

Claim Rejections Under 35 U.S.C. § 102:

Within the Office Action, Claims 1-5, 11, 41 and 42 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent Application Publication No. 2003/0126130 to Martino et al. (hereinafter "Martino"). The Applicant respectfully disagrees.

Martino teaches a controller that receives information regarding content available from one or more external sources. The controller may be implemented within a video receiver, a digital video recorder, within an audio receiver, or within an Internet access device. (Martino, paragraph [0017]) The controller has a sort module and a user interface. The user interface enables user input from an infrared remote control, a touch screen, or input buttons. (Martino, paragraph [0020]) The sort module sorts content listings based on user task context. (Martino, paragraph [0023]) Martino does not teach a controller that automatically distributes digital information based on the type to one or more secondary devices.

In contrast to the teachings of Martino, the computing device of the present invention performs automatic content routing. The computing device has a central processing unit, a storage device, a display adapter, a main memory, a UPnP interface, all coupled together by a system bus. The storage device stores digital content downloaded from the server and a routing software application. The routing software automatically detects which secondary devices are coupled to the computing device and routes the digital content to the appropriate secondary device. The UPnP interface preferably operates according to the UPnP protocol and couples the

computing device to the exemplary secondary devices. As described above, Martino does not teach a controller that *automatically distributes* digital information based on the type to one or more secondary devices.

The independent Claim 1 is directed to an apparatus for automatically routing digital information. The apparatus of Claim 1 comprises an interface coupled to receive downloaded digital information having a type, a storage device coupled to the interface to store the digital information, and a controller coupled to the storage device to <u>automatically</u> sort and <u>distribute the digital information based on the type to one or more secondary devices</u>. As discussed above, Martino does not a controller that *automatically distributes* digital information based on the type to one or more secondary devices. For at least these reasons, the independent Claim 1 is allowable over the teachings of Martino.

Claims 2-5 and 11 are dependent upon the independent Claim 1. As discussed above, the independent Claim 1 is allowable over the teachings of Martino. Accordingly, Claims 2-5 and 11 are all also allowable as being dependent upon an allowable base claim.

The independent Claim 41 is directed to a method for routing digital information from a computing device to one or more secondary devices. The method of Claim 41 comprises receiving the digital information having a type, automatically sorting the digital information based on the type, and <u>automatically distributing the digital information to a corresponding one or more of the secondary devices based on the type</u>. As discussed above, Martino does not teach *automatically distributing* digital information to a corresponding one or more secondary devices based on the type. For at least these reasons, the independent Claim 41 is allowable over the teachings of Martino.

Claim 42 is dependent upon independent Claim 41. As discussed above, the independent Claim 41 is allowable over the teachings of Martino. Accordingly, Claim 42 is also allowable as being dependent upon an allowable base claim.

Claim Rejections Under 35 U.S.C. § 103:

Within the Office Action, Claims 6-9 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Martino in view of U.S. Patent Application No. 2004/0250061 to Yamauchi et al. (hereinafter "Yamauchi"). Claims 6-9 are dependent on the independent Claim 1. As discussed above, the independent Claim 1 is allowable over Martino. Accordingly, Claims 6-9 are all also allowable as being dependent upon an allowable base claim.

Within the Office Action, Claims 10, 43 and 44 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Martino in view of U.S. Patent Application No. 2004/0175098 to Calhoon et al. (hereinafter "Calhoon"). Claim 10 is dependent on the independent Claim 1. Claim 43 and 44 are dependent on the independent Claim 41. As discussed above, the independent Claims 1 and 41 are allowable over Martino. Accordingly, Claims 10, 43 and 44 are all also allowable as being dependent upon an allowable base claim.

Within the Office Action, Claims 12-14, 16-40 and 45-47 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Martino in view of Calhoon and further in view of Yamauchi. As discussed above, Martino teaches a controller that receives information regarding content available from one or more external sources. The controller may be implemented within a video receiver, a digital video recorder, within an audio receiver, or within an Internet access device. The controller has a sort module and a user interface. The user interface enables user input from an infrared remote control, a touch screen, or input buttons. The sort module sorts content listings based on user task context. There is no hint, teaching, or suggestion within Martino that a controller *automatically distributes* digital information based on the type to one or more secondary devices.

Calhoon teaches a system comprising a personal media player that receives, stores, and renders digital video. The personal media player has a data port system to interface with external electronic systems in order to download media content therefrom. The personal medial player, utilizing Universal Plug and Play (UPnP) functionality, is connected to a network hub or a wireless access point either by a physical or a wireless connection. The network hub or wireless access point is also connected, either physically or wirelessly, to a UPnP media server, a UPnP control point, and a DSL/Cable modem which, in turn, is connected to a license server via the Internet. Once the media context is moved to the personal media player, the personal media player is disconnected from the Internet. There is no hint, teaching, or suggestion within Calhoon that a controller *automatically distributes* digital information based on the type to one or more secondary devices.

Yamauchi teaches a reception/transmission system in which distribution of contents to devices outside the authorized domain (AD) is restricted, and in which settings cannot be changed easily. The AD includes a server, a client, a router, and a hub. The router is the only device in the AD network that is connected to a network outside the AD. The server obtains contents from the external network via the router, and stores the contents in a content storage distribution unit. When a content distribution request is received from the client, the server first

confirms that the client is a device in the AD, and then distributes the content to the client. There is no hint, teaching, or suggestion within Yamauchi that a controller *automatically distributes* digital information based on the type to one or more secondary devices. Accordingly, neither Martino, Calhoon, Yamauchi nor their combination teach a controller that *automatically distributes* digital information based on the type to one or more secondary devices.

The independent Claim 12 is directed to an apparatus for automatically routing digital information from a computing device to one or more secondary devices. The apparatus of Claim 12 comprises an interface coupled to receive downloaded digital information having a type, a storage device coupled to the interface to store the digital information, and a controller coupled to the storage device to <u>automatically</u> detect the one or more secondary devices, determine which type of digital information is routed to which secondary device, and <u>distribute the digital information to the one or more secondary devices based on the type</u>. As discussed above, neither Martino, Calhoon, Yamauchi nor their combination teach a controller that *automatically distributes* digital information based on the type to one or more secondary devices. For at least these reasons, the independent Claim 12 is allowable over the teachings of Martino, Calhoon, Yamauchi and their combination.

Claims 13, 14 and 16-21 are dependent upon the independent Claim 12. As discussed above, the independent Claim 12 is allowable over the teachings of Martino, Calhoon, Yamauchi and their combination. Accordingly, Claims 13, 14 and 16-21 are all also allowable as being dependent upon an allowable base claim.

The independent Claim 22 is directed to an apparatus for automatically routing digital media content from a computing device to one or more secondary devices. The apparatus of Claim 22 comprises an interface coupled to receive downloaded digital media content having a type, a storage device coupled to the interface to store the digital media content, and a controller coupled to the storage device to <u>automatically</u> detect the one or more secondary devices, determine which type of media content is routed to which secondary device utilizing a routing table, and <u>distribute the digital media content to the one or more secondary devices based on the type</u>. As discussed above, neither Martino, Calhoon, Yamauchi nor their combination teach a controller that *automatically distributes* digital information based on the type to one or more secondary devices. For at least these reasons, the independent Claim 22 is allowable over the teachings of Martino, Calhoon, Yamauchi and their combination.

Claims 23-30 are dependent upon the independent Claim 22. As discussed above, the independent Claim 22 is allowable over the teachings of Martino, Calhoon, Yamauchi and their

combination. Accordingly, Claims 23-30 are all also allowable as being dependent upon an allowable base claim.

The independent Claim 31 is directed to a network of devices for automatically routing digital information. The network of Claim 31 comprises a server including digital information, a computing device coupled to the server for obtaining and <u>automatically distributing the digital information based on a type</u>, and one or more secondary devices coupled to the computing device for receiving the digital information from the computing device. As discussed above, neither Martino, Calhoon, Yamauchi nor their combination teach a controller that *automatically distributes* digital information based on the type to one or more secondary devices. For at least these reasons, the independent Claim 31 is allowable over the teachings of Martino, Calhoon, Yamauchi and their combination.

Claims 32-40 are dependent upon the independent Claim 31. As discussed above, the independent Claim 31 is allowable over the teachings of Martino, Calhoon, Yamauchi and their combination. Accordingly, Claims 32-40 are all also allowable as being dependent upon an allowable base claim.

The independent Claim 45 is directed to a method for routing digital information from a computing device to one or more secondary devices. The method of Claim 45 comprises receiving the digital information having a type, automatically detecting the secondary devices, automatically sorting the digital information based on the type, and <u>automatically distributing the digital information to a corresponding one or more of the secondary devices based on the type</u>. As discussed above, neither Martino, Calhoon, Yamauchi nor their combination teach a controller that *automatically distributes* digital information based on the type to one or more secondary devices. For at least these reasons, the independent Claim 45 is allowable over the teachings of Martino, Calhoon, Yamauchi and their combination.

Claims 46 and 47 are dependent upon the independent Claim 45. As discussed above, the independent Claim 45 is allowable over the teachings of Martino, Calhoon, Yamauchi and their combination. Accordingly, Claims 46 and 47 are both also allowable as being dependent upon an allowable base claim.

New Dependent Claims:

By the above amendments, new dependent Claims 48-51 have been added. Claim 48 is dependent upon the independent Claim 1. Claim 49 is dependent upon the independent Claim 12. Claim 50 is dependent upon the independent Claim 22. Claim 51 is dependent upon the

independent Claim 31. As discussed above, the independent Claim 1 is allowable over the teachings of Martino, and the independent Claims 12, 22 and 31 are allowable over the teachings of Martino, Calhoon, Yamauchi and their combination. Accordingly, Claims 48-51 are all also allowable as being dependent upon an allowable base claim.

Applicants respectfully submit that the claims are in a condition for allowance, and allowance at an early date would be appreciated. Should the Examiner have any questions or comments, they are encouraged to call the undersigned at (408) 530-9700 to discuss the same so that any outstanding issues can be expeditiously resolved.

Respectfully submitted,

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